

Claims 28, 29 and 31 have been amended. No new matter has been added as a result of these amendments. Claims 34-39 have been added. No new matter has been added as a result of the addition of these claims.

Claim 29 was amended to correct a typographical error. In line 1 of claim 29, "poly" was missing in the word "nucleotide". The amendments to claims 28 and 31 shall be discussed in more detail below.

Rejection of Claims 28-33 Under 35 U.S.C. Section 102(e) in view of Lal et al. (U.S. Patent 5,856,139)

Claims 28-33 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 102(e) as being anticipated by Lal et al. (U.S. Patent 5,856,139). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claims 28 and 31 have been amended to remove the reference to SEQ ID NOS: 2 and 25. However, new claims 34-39 have been added. These claims refer to SEQ ID NOS. 2 and 25. New claims 34-39 use the transitional word "consisting essentially thereof".

Therefore, in view of the aforementioned amendments to claims 28-33 and the addition of new claims 34-39, Applicants submit that this rejection should be withdrawn.

Should the Examiner have any questions concerning the above, she is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below. If any

additional fees are incurred as a result of the filing of this paper, authorization is given to charge deposit account no. 01-0025.



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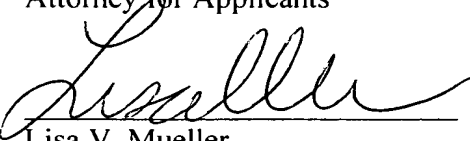
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Version Showing Changes Made

Please amend claims 28, 29 and 31 as follows:

28. (Amended). A purified polynucleotide comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of: SEQ ID NO:1, [SEQ ID NO:2], SEQ ID NO:23, SEQ ID NO:24, [SEQ ID NO:25,] and [complete complements thereof] degenerate coding sequences thereof.

29. (Twice Amended). The purified polynucleotide of claim 28 wherein said polynucleotide is produced by recombinant techniques.

31. (Amended). An isolated DNA molecule comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of: SEQ ID NO:1, [SEQ ID NO:2], SEQ ID NO:23, SEQ ID NO:24, [SEQ ID NO:25,] and degenerate coding sequences thereof.